

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
SSM-03 ACDA-12 IO-13 /087 W
-----081455 020718Z /15

R 012350Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6151
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 06676

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR EG XF
SUBJECT: SENIOR MILITARY OFFICER PESSIMISTIC ON PEACE

1. DURING MARCH 1 CALL ON MG HASSAN EL KATEB, DIRECTOR SINAI LIAISON ORGANIZATION, TO DISCUSS OTHER SUBJECTS, KATEB INDICATED TO POLCOUNS HE PESSIMISTIC ABOUT SETTLEMENT. KATEB REITERATED FAMILIAR THEME THAT "99 PERCENT OF CARDS" ARE IN U.S. HANDS AND ONLY U.S. CAN BRING ABOUT SETTLEMENT.

2. KATEB WENT ON TO SAY THAT, IN HIS VIEW, PRESENT ISRAELI "INTRANSIGENCE" IS RESULT OF "ARROGANCE AND SUPERIORITY COMPLEX" OF ISRAELI LEADERS AND THEY ARE DOING GREAT DISSERVICE TO THE ISRAELI PEOPLE. EGYPT IS OFFERING FRIENDSHIP OF 40 MILLION EGYPTIANS IN RETURN FOR ITS LAND AND ISRAEL IS REFUSING. KATEB SAID ISRAELIS SHOULD REMEMBER THAT GERMANY BELIEVED IN THE SUPERIORITY OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE. THEY WERE ABLE TO TAKE OVER LARGE AMOUNTS OF LAND BY FORCE, BUT IN THE FINAL RECKONING, THE
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PEOPLE SUFFERED GREATLY. SAME DEFEAT WILL BE THE EVENTUAL FATE OF THE ISRAELIS IF THEY PERSIST IN EXPANSIONIST POLICIES.

3. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH KATEB ALSO SERVES AS MILITARY SPOKESMAN AND MEASURES HIS WORDS CAREFULLY, ABOVE REMARKS WERE MADE IN RELAXED MOMENT RIDING IN HIS CAR.

THEY ARE REPORTED AS ILLUSTRATIVE OF WHAT WE BELIEVE
IS THE ATTITUDE OF MANY SENIOR EGYPTIAN OFFICERS TO
THE CURRENT ISRAELI NEGOTIATING STANCE. EILTS

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